

Message Text

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TAGS: BEXP, UK
SUBJECT: US TASK FORCE FOOTWEAR INDUSTRY - MARKET
RESEARCH (DUTY SHOES)

REF: (A) 77 STATE 27757L1; (B) 77 LONDON 16253;
(C) USDOC 2349; (D) STATE 32522; (E) LONDON
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FOR CHARLES JOHNSON - FOOTWEAR TEAM CO-ORDINATOR (ITA/
BED/OIM/SAD) USDOC

1. UK STATISTICS SHOW NO BREAKDOWN FOR DUTY SHOES FOR
SECURITY FORCES (SHOES AND BOOTS USED BY FIRE SERVICE,
POLICE, ARMED FORCES, PRIVATE SECURITY FORCES) REQUEST-
ED PER REF D. THESE CATEGORIES ARE LOST UNDER GENERAL
STATISTICAL HEADINGS SUCH AS "LEATHER UPPERS", "INDUSTR
IAL", "PROTECTIVE" IN PLASTIC AND RUBBER WITH AND WITH-
OUT TOE CAPS, AND "OTHER FOOTWEAR". FOR EXAMPLE,
EXPORT STATISTICS OF FOOTWEAR TO LIBYA (TARIFF 6402-
LEATHER UPPERS) REPRESENT ONLY BOOTS FOR THE LIBYAN
ARMY AS UK IS KNOWN NOT TO EXPORT OTHER FOOTWEAR TO
LIBYA. IN ADDITION TO OFFICIALLY PUBLISHED STATISTICS,
ALL KNOWN POSSIBLE SOURCES HAVE BEEN APPROACHED IN ATT-
EMPT TO OBTAIN THIS INFORMATION, I.E. BOOT AND SHOE
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MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION, BRITISH SHOE MANUFACTURERS
FEDERATION, SHOE AND ALLIED TRADES RESEARCH ASSOCIATION
(SATRA), AND THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE BUSINESS STATISTI-
CAL OFFICE/LIBRARY. ALL CONFIRM STATISTICS ARE CLASSI-
FIED INTO TYPES OF SHOES RATHER THAN END-USE. IT IS
REGRETTED THEREFORE THAT PRODUCTION/EXPORT STATISTICS
FOR ABOVE-MENTIONED CATEGORIES ARE NOT AVAILABLE.

2. MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, WITH ITS THREE SERVICE TRAINING MANAGEMENT BRANCHES (ARMY, NAVY AND ROYAL AIR FORCE) SUBMIT REQUISITIONS TO CENTRAL CONTRACTS BRANCH. COMBINED REQUIREMENTS ARE THEN PUT OUT TO TENDER. IN ADDITION TO SUPPLIES OF FOOTWEAR FOR BRITISH ARMED FORCES, OVERSEAS ARMIES (PARTICULARLY IN COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES ALSO OBTAIN FOOTWEAR FROM UK THROUGH MINISTRY OF DEFENCE SALES OFFICE. THIS CAN BE DONE IN ONE OF TWO WAYS: A) HEAD OF DEFENCE SALES USES HIS GOOD OFFICES TO ARRANGE WITH CONTRACTORS TO SUPPLY OVERSEAS ARMIES; B) HEAD OF DEFENCE SALES SUPPLIES CERTAIN OVERSEAS ARMIES FROM ARMY RESOURCES.

3. POLICE AND FIRE SERVICES; THERE ARE 52 SEPARATE POLICE FORCES AND APPROXIMATELY SAME NO. OF FIRE BRIGADES THROUGHOUT UNITED KINGDOM. LOCAL AUTHORITIES RECEIVE GRANTS FROM CENTRAL GOVERNMENT TOWARDS UPKEEP OF THESE SERVICES (POLICE 50 PERCENT) WITH LOCAL TAXES (RATES) PROVIDING THE BALANCE. EACH COUNTY POLICE FORCE AND FIRE BRIGADE IS INDIVIDUALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR PROCUREMENT. THIS CAN BE EITHER THROUGH: (A) AREA CENTRAL PROCUREMENT, OR B) PAYING PERSONNEL CLOTHING ALLOWANCE WITH WHICH TO PURCHASE ONE'S OWN CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR; FOR EXAMPLE, CLOTHING ALLOWANCE IS PAID TO PERSONNEL IN ARMY CONSTABULARY. METHOD ADOPTED

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COULD DEPEND ON SIZE OF FORCE OR ESTABLISHED CUSTOM AND USAGE.

BREWSTER

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